# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# FINANCE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4019
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2016
Regional Rural Banks
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**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) do not have adequate infrastructure as of other commercial banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to create a national level apex body for RRBs in association with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to expand its credit facilities in rural areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen RRBs?

## Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance

(a) & (b): As on 31st March 2016, there are 56 RRBs in operation with a network of 20,904 full-fledged branches and more than 6300 Ultra Small branches covering 644 notified districts in 27 States and the Union Territory of Puducherry.
All the RRBs have adopted appropriate technology and migrated to core banking solutions (CBS) for better customer services. Further, as on 31st May, 2016, 50 out of 56 RRBs are having Point of Sale (PoS) certification. RRBs are now able to offer NEFT/RTGS, RuPay KCC, ATM Cards and other technology enabled Banking services to their customers on the lines of Commercial Banks.
All the Head Offices, Regional Offices and branches of RRBs are generally housed in pucca premises either own or rented. Further, opening of about 36000 Customer Service Points (CSPs)/Business Correspondents (BCs) outlets by the RRBs has created rural outreach and infrastructure.
Some of the RRBs have set up their own training infrastructure for internal training of staff.
(c) & (d): There is no such proposal.
(e): The Government of India based on the recommendations of Dr. K.C. Chakrabarty Committee (Report of Committee on Recapitalisation of RRBs for improving CRAR), identified 40 RRBs for recapitlisation assistance of Rs.2200 crore − (GoI Rs.1100 crore, Sponsor Banks − Rs.770 crore and State Governments − Rs.330 crore). An amount of Rs.2208.62 crore has been released to 38 RRBs in 20 States as on 31st March, 2016.
RRBs(Amendment) Act, 2015 notified on 12.05.2015, has, inter-alia, enhanced the authorized capital of RRB from Rs.5 crore to Rs.2000 crore.
All the officers including the Chairpersons of RRBs are being provided training on key functional areas like financial management, organizational development, IT and HR related aspects. This has helped in knowledge, skill and attitude development of the officials of RRBs to meet the emerging challenges.

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